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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 71  
**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

INTRODUCED BY  
Keith J. Gardner

A JOINT MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW SCOPES OF  
PRACTICE OF THE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS.

WHEREAS, the legislature has requested assistance with  
objective information on proposed changes to health care scopes  
of practice or the creation of new scopes of practice; and

WHEREAS, any process must ensure that the public is  
protected from unscrupulous, incompetent and unethical  
practitioners; and

WHEREAS, any process must offer assurances to the public  
that the regulated individual is competent to provide services  
in a safe and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, the reasons for scope of practice changes should  
have a foundational basis within four areas: an established  
history of the practice scope within the profession, education

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1 and training, supporting evidence and an appropriate regulatory  
2 environment; and

3 WHEREAS, the purpose of any review and subsequent change  
4 of any scope of practice is to promote better consumer care  
5 across professions and providers, improve access to care and  
6 recognize the inevitability of overlapping scopes of practice;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, some practice changes are the result of changes  
9 already occurring in education or practice due to research,  
10 advances in technology and changes in societal health care  
11 demands;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico health policy  
14 commission convene a task force made up of representatives from  
15 all interested licensed health care provider associations and  
16 health professional licensing boards created in Chapter 61 NMSA  
17 1978 to develop agreement on the process for scope of practice  
18 changes that should be assessed and to develop agreement on  
19 changes to existing scopes of practice that should be  
20 recommended to the legislature; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations of the  
22 task force be reported to the interim legislative health and  
23 human services committee no later than November 2007; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
25 transmitted to the New Mexico health policy commission, each of

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1 the health-related licensing boards within the regulation and  
2 licensing department, the board of nursing and the New Mexico  
3 medical board.

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